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SENATE BILL 2150  
By Dixon

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 7, Part 1 and Title 16, Chapter 2, Part 5, relative to divorce proceedings and the investigation thereof.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 7, Part 1, is amended by adding the following new section:

Section 8-7-113.

(a) The district attorney general of the thirtieth judicial district is authorized to employ an additional criminal investigator position for the sole purpose of staffing a pilot project in such district. The purpose of such pilot project shall be to investigate the existence of and prosecute any fraud, perjury, unlawful withholding or transfer of assets or any other criminal misconduct that may occur during the course of a divorce proceeding. It shall be the duty of the investigator so employed to investigate any such complaints of criminal misconduct made to the district attorney general of such district and to report the results of such investigation to the district attorney for possible prosecution.

(b) By January 10, 2004, the district attorney of the thirtieth judicial district shall report to the general assembly on the number of divorce actions filed in such district during the period between July 1, 2002 and July 1, 2003, the number of complaints of criminal misconduct during divorce proceedings made to the district attorney during such period, the number of incidents of criminal misconduct found to have actually occurred during that period and the number of prosecutions and convictions that resulted from such occurrences.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 16-2-506, is amended by adding the following new subsection (30)(C):

(C) Effective July 1, 2002, the district attorney general of the thirtieth judicial district is entitled to one (1) additional criminal investigator position for the sole purpose of conducting investigations for the divorce misconduct pilot project established in § 8-7-113; and

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002, the public welfare requiring it.